which is about three per cent of the total installed capacity in India, whereas the percentage of electricity generated through nuclear power in the US, Japan and Germany is 19 percent, 29 percent and 31 percent respectively;

(b) whether Government are hopeful that the existing nuclear power capacity would increase to 7,280 MW by the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan Period; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the nuclear power capacity further?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Total nuclear power generation capacity in the country is 4120 MWe, which is about 3% of the total installed capacity.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The XI Plan proposals envisage start of work on 8 reactors of 700 MWe each based on indigenous design. More reactors are also planned beyond XI Plan. In addition to the development of indigenous programme, the Government has taken initiatives for opening up of international civil nuclear cooperation. Depending on the progress on development of international civil nuclear co-operation, further capacity addition through imports is also envisaged as an additionality.

Coal royalty rates

3818. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal royalty rates are likely to go up and the States producing coal and lignite would get a substantial rise;

(b) if so, the estimated benefit which each coal and lignite producing State would get; and

(c) whether such States would be advised to spend a major portion of the enhanced royalty amount towards latest state-of-the-art safety measures as the frequency of accidents in coal mines resulting in loss of lives are occurring very often?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Ministry of Coal constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Coal) to examine the issue of revision of royalty rates on coal. The Committee ascertained the viewpoints of all stake holders including State Governments. After detailed deliberations with all stake holders, the Committee submitted its report. The Report is under consideration of the government. The likely benefit to the coal/lignite producing States can be estimated only after a view is taken on the basis and rates of royalty by the Government.

(c) The royalty on coal and lignite is collected and retained by the State Governments. However, provision of effective and adequate safety measures is the responsibility of the coal/lignite mine owner.

Moll with NTPC for setting up new coal mining projects

3819. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal India Limited (CIL) is signing a MoU with NTPC to set up a joint venture for the development of new coal mining projects;

(b) if so, the outlines of the MoU;

(c) whether CIL has also shown interest in running Mining and Allied Machinery Corp. (MAMC), Durgapur to manufacture underground mining equipment and machineries; and

(d) if so, the present status of the revival process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. An MoU has been signed between Coal India Limited (CIL) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) on 15.3.2007 for jointly undertaking the development, operation and maintenance of coal blocks and integrated coal based power plant(s).

(b) The outlines of the MOU are:—

(i) Joint Business Development Group consisting of four members each from CIL and NTPC will identify suitable project(s) and